# COCKERMOUTH COUNCIL

# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health, Charles A. Mason, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

FOR THE YEAR 1950

Together with the Summary of Work of the Sanitary Inspector



# URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## Cockermouth Urban District Council

To the Chairman and Members of the Cockermouth Urban District Council.

### Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1950, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health, dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received June, 1951.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

# GENERAL STATISTICS.

| Area (acres), 2,040.<br>Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (see page 5) | mid 1950)<br>5,130. |
|--|---------------------|
| Number of inhabited houses (end 1950), according to R                                    | late                |
| В  | ooks, 1,798.        |
| Rateable Value   | £27,373             |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate (approx) £108.   |                     |
|  |                     |
|  |                     |

# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

|                |     |                            | Total   | M. | $\mathbf{F}_{\star}$ |  |
|----------------|-----|----------------------------|---------|----|----------------------|--|
| Live<br>Births | }   | Legitimate<br>Illegitimate | 77<br>5 | 35 | 42 }                 | Birth Rate (R.G.) (unadjusted) 15.8 per 1000 of the population |
| Still Bir      | ths | ***                        | o       | 0  | 0                    | , ,  |

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still, births, nil.

| •   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Deaths 68 34 34 Crude Death Rate.  (R.G.) 13.1 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Maternal Mortality:—  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Deaths from pulerperal causes (childbirth):—  Deaths. Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Puerperal Sepsis Nil Nil Other Puerperal Causes Nil Nil Total Nil Nil   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Infantile Mortality:— Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age 2 (m and f)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:  All Infants per 1,000 live births  Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births  26 (Approx).  Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births  nil. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

0

0

1

16

Deaths from Measles (all ages)

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)

Deaths from Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea

## Cockermouth Urban District.

### ANNUAL REPORT

### OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the year, 1950.

The area of the district in statute acres (and inland water) is 2,065.

### RAINFALL.

Records,\* taken at South Lodge, Cockermouth, 242 feet above sea level:—

|           |       | Inches  |   |
|-----------|-------|---------|---|
| 1950.     |       | of rain | Over 1 inch of rain fell on the following dates:— |
| January   |       | 2.77    |   |
| February  |       | 4.93    |   |
| March     |       | 3.58    | 18th.   |
| April     |       | 3.33    |   |
| May       |       | 1.72    |   |
| June      |       | 3.11    |   |
| July      |       | 3.23    |   |
| August    |       | 6.69    |   |
| September |       | 10.53   | 6th and 20th.                                     |
| October   |       | 4.70    | •   |
| November  |       | 4.41    |   |
| December  |       | 2.13    |   |
|           |       |         |   |
|           | Total | 51.13   |   |
|           |       |         |   |

(Average Rainfall 1936-1846 inclusive—42.36 ins.)

\*Kindly given by John Armstrong, Esq., South Lodge.

### POPULATION.

The population figure of 5,160 is given for the year 1950 by the Registrar-General and called by him the "Home population" (i.e including members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area); on this figure the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based.

N.B.—The population figure for 1949 was 5,230 and non-civilians were excluded.

## Vital Statistics.

### BIRTHS.

Live Births.—There were 82 Live Births (36 males and 46 females) registered as belonging to the district; of these 5 (1 male and 4 females) were illegitimate.

The net live birth rate was accordingly 15.8 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 16.6 for the previous year.

As regards Births and Deaths the Registrar-General has supplied Area Comparability Factors which allow for the differing age and sex distribution of the population in different areas and are used for comparing birth rates and death rates with those in other areas. The factor for births is 0.98, adjusting the birth rate, therefore, to 15.5.

Comparisons may be given as follows:-

|              |                               |      | Adjusted |
|--------------|-------------------------------|------|----------|
| Birth Rates, | 1950—Cumberland               | 17.6 |          |
|              | Rural Districts of Cumberland | 17.4 |          |
|              | Urban Districts of Cumberland | 18.0 |          |
|              | England and Wales             | 15.8 |          |
|              | Cockermouth Rural District    | 16.7 |          |
|              | Cockermouth Urban District    | 15.8 | 15.5     |

The percentage of illegitimate live births was 6.09 as compared with 8.0 in 1949.

Still Births.—There were no still births registered, so that the still birth rate per 1,000 of the population was nil as compared with 7 still births making a rate of 1.3 for 1949. (The rate for all England and Wales was 9.37).

The still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births was, also, nil, as compared with 74.4 for 1949.

### DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Cockermouth was 68. This gave a crude death rate of 13.1 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 13.5 for the previous year.

### CAUSES OF DEATH 1950.

| Causes of Death All Causes                           |     | Males 34    | Females 34     |
|--|-----|-------------|----------------|
| 1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory                         |     | 0           | 1              |
| 2. Tuberculosis, Other                               |     | 0           | 0              |
| 3. Syphilitic Disease                                |     | 0           | 0              |
| 4. Diphtheria  |     | 0           | 0              |
| 5. Whooping Cough                                    |     | 0           | 0              |
| 6. Meningo-coccal Infections                         | • • | 0           | 0              |
| 7 Acute Poliomyelitis                                | • • | 0           | 0              |
| 8. Measles 9. Other infective and Parasitic diseases | • • | 0           | 0              |
| 10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach                      | • • | 2           | 3              |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus               |     | 2           | 0              |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast                       |     | 0           | $\overline{2}$ |
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, Uterus                       |     | 0           | 0              |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms          |     | 4           | 3              |
| 15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia                            |     | 0           | 0              |
| 16. Diabetes   |     | 0           | 0              |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system               |     | 2           | 3              |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina                         |     | 4           | ä              |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease                  | • • | 2           | 1              |
| 20. Other heart disease                              | • • | 6           | 19             |
| 21. Other circulatory disease 22. Influenza          |     | 1           | $0 \\ 2$       |
| 23. Pneumonia  |     | 1           | 0              |
| 24. Bronchitis                                       |     | 2           |                |
| 25. Other diseases of the Respiratory System         |     | 1           |                |
| 26. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum                    |     | $\tilde{2}$ | -              |
| 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea               |     | 1           |                |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis                          |     | . 0         | 0              |
| 29. Hyperplasia of prostate                          |     | . 1         | . 0            |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion                  |     | . 0         |                |
| 31. Congenital malformations                         |     |             |                |
| 32 Other defined and ill-defined diseases            | * ( |             |                |
| 33. Motor-vehicle accidents 34. All other accidents  | •   | . 1         |                |
| 34. All other accidents 35. Suicide                  | •   | . 1         |                |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war                   | •   | . (         |                |
|  | •   | . (         | ) 0            |
| Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total          |     | . 1         | . 1            |
| Legitimate   |     | . 1         | 1              |
| Illegitimate   |     | . (         | 0              |
|  |     |             |                |
| ) Total  |     | . 36        | 3 46           |
| LIVE BIRTHS Legitimate                               |     | . 35        | 42             |
| Illegitimate   |     | 1           | 4              |
|  |     |             | -              |
| ) Total  |     |             | 0 0            |
| STILL BIRTHS } Illegitimate                          |     |             | 0              |
| ) Legitimate   |     |             | 0 0            |
| POPULATION (C. P. II.                                | ,   |             |                |

POPULATION (for Births and Deaths), 1950—R.G.—(see p. 5) 5,160.

The comparability factor given for adjusting the crude death rate (for the reasons explained under Births) is 0.94. The adjusted death rate for Cockermouth Urban District was, therefore, 12.3.

Comparisons of crude and adjusted death rates are shewn below:—

|                                | Crude | Adjusted |
|--------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Death Rates, 1950—Cumberland   | 12.6  | _        |
| Rural Districts of Cumber land | 12.0  | —        |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland  | 13.4  | -        |
| England and Wales              | 11.6  |          |
| Cockermouth Rural District     | 12.6  | 12.2     |
| Cockermouth Urban District     | 13.1  | 12.3     |

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were again only 2 deaths (both legit. 1 m. 1 f.) among infants under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 24.3 per 1,000 births as compared with 2 deaths with a rate of 22.9 for 1949.

No death occurring among illegitimate infants, the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate for 1950 was, therefore, nil per 1,000 illegimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of 25.9 per 1,000 legitimate births. These latter rates were respectively 142 and 12.5 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows:-

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1950:-

| Cumberland                    |  | 35   |
|-------------------------------|--|------|
| Rural Districts of Cumberland |  | 37   |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland |  | 33   |
| England and Wales             |  | 29.8 |
| Cockermouth Rural District    |  | 43   |
| Cockermouth Urban District    |  | 24   |

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age:-

| Cause of<br>Death                       | under<br>1 wk. | 1—2<br>weeks | Total under 4 wks |   | 3-6 mths. |  | Total<br>under<br>lyr. |
|---|----------------|--------------|-------------------|---|-----------|--|------------------------|
| Prematurity (smallest of twins)         |                |              | -                 | 1 |           |  | ī                      |
| Broncho-pneumonia with gastro-enteritis |                |              |                   |   | I         |  | 1                      |

### SENILE DEATH RATE.

50 persons had attained the age of 65 years and upwards. This number represents a Senile Death Rate of 73.5 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 85.9 for 1949.

| 4 | (2m | 2f) | occurred among | persons  | between | the | ages | of 65 | and | 70 | yrs. |
|---|-----|-----|----------------|----------|---------|-----|------|-------|-----|----|------|
|   | (8m |     | "              |          | "       |     |      | 70    | and | 75 | yrs. |
|   | (8m |     | "              |          | "       |     |      | 75    | and | 80 | yrs. |
|   | (4m |     | , ,,           |          | **      |     |      | 80    | and | 85 | yrs. |
| _ | (1m | 5f) | 11             |          | 12      |     |      | 85    | and | 90 | yrs. |
| 2 | (f) |     | "at age        | s 90 and | 91 yrs. |     |      |       |     |    |      |

### INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year

there were 2 inquests (one being held within the district).

One Coroner's certificate was received in respect of a case where post-mortem examination had been made but no inquest held.

One death was "Uncertified."

Violence.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was .38 per 1,000 of the population in the Coekermouth Urban District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accident, Other Violence and the Total Violence deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates of each per 1,000 of the population in comparison with 1949.—

|                      | Suicide |              | Road Traffic |      | Other Vi<br>exolig J<br>Traffic | Road         | Total<br>Violence |      |
|----------------------|---------|--------------|--------------|------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|------|
|                      | 1950    | <b>194</b> 9 | 1950         | 1949 | 1950                            | <b>194</b> 9 | 1950              | 1949 |
| Deaths               | nil     | nil          | ī            | nıl  | ī                               | 1            | 2                 | 1    |
| % of all causes      | nil     | nil          | 1.47         | nil  | 1.47                            | 1.40         | 2.94              | 1.40 |
| D.R. per 1000 popln. | nil     | nil          | .19          | nil  | . 19                            | . 19         | .38               | .19  |

The two violence deaths include one of pneumonia following fractured femur after a fall, and one of urinary infection following a fractured femur after being knocked down by a motor car on the highway.

### CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 16 cases, as follows:

| System      | Primary Organ       | Males | Females | Years old |
|-------------|---------------------|-------|---------|-----------|
| Alimentary  | Oesophagus          | 1     | 1       | 60 76     |
|             | Stomach             | 2     | 3       | 44 55 64  |
|             |                     |       |         | 69 73     |
|             | Colon               | 1     | 0       | 67        |
|             | Rectum              | 2     | 0       | 65 72     |
| Glandular   | Breast              | 0     | 2       | 47 76     |
| Respiratory | Lung                | 2     | 0       | 52 55     |
| Other       | Primary not located | 0     | 1       | 64        |
|             | Vulva               | 0     | 1       | 82        |

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 3.1 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 12 cases with a rate of 2.29 in 1949.

In 1950, approximately, out of every 4 deaths of persons in this district 1 was attributed to cancer (1949—1 in 6).

### TUBERCULOSIS.

### Vide also page 17.

There was one death\* attributed to Tuberculosis.-

|                    | Males | Female. |
|--------------------|-------|---------|
| Respiratory System | 0     | 1       |
| Non-Pulmonary      | 0     | U       |

\*This death was complicated with Diabetes Mellitus.

The Tuberculosis (all forms) death rate, therefore, was 0.19 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with nil in 1949.

Similarly, the death rate due to Pulmonary Tuberculosis was 0.19 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with nil the previous year.

# General Provision of Health Services in the Area. PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Part-time Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Inspector Mr. Maurice M. Dixon, M.Inst. Mun. E. C.R. San. I., being also the Surveyor and Water Engineer.

Mr James Bowman, assistant in the Surveyor's office, left to take up a similar appointment elsewhere and Mr James Goodfellow was appointed to fill the vacancy.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

In accordance with the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council is the Authority responsible for this important public service (taking over in 1948). Under their comprehensive Ambulance Scheme for Cumberland adequate provision has been made for Cockermouth Urban District.

Other particulars under Provision of Health Services remain as detailed in my 1930 and subsequent reports.

# Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

### WATER SUPPLY.

Water is obtained from Workington Corporation in bulk and is considered to be of high quality. (Analyses are carried out as a general rule by the Workington Corporation). All the houses in the Urban District are supplied with water from the public water mains with the exception of the following:—St. Helen's Private School and Lodge, Strawberry Howe Farm, Annfield Farm, Park House and Park House Farm. which have private piped supplies. 259 houses still obtain their water from common taps either in the yard or wash-house supplied from the public mains.

The majority of the work covered by the new scheme of distribution mains was completed during the year. As a result, the high-level areas (including Windmill Lane and Slatefell housing estates, Castlegate Drive and Lorton Road) were supplied from the new reservoir at Sunscales in December and the unsatisfactory conditions which had applied in these parts for some years were overcome.

The amount of water taken from the Crummock trunk main totalled 121,000,000 gallons, equivalent to a daily consumption per head of approximately 63 gallons. This figure includes trade supplies, and is unduly high by reason of two sets of mains (old and new) being in use for the majority of the period, whilst service pipes were transferred to the new mains just laid.

Metered supplies were increased in number during the year, and totalled 35.

Discussions between the Workington Corporation and the Cockermouth Urban and Rural authorities continued, and tenders were received for the installation of a chlorination and anti-incrustation plant at Lorton. The condition of the 15''/13'' main from Crummock was also discussed at these meetings. Efforts were made to engage main-scraping specialists but it was finally agreed that the work of scraping should be carried out by the waterworks staff of the Workington Corporation.

No progress was made with the North Cumberland Water Board's Caldewhead scheme despite strong representations from the constituent authorities to the Government departments concerned.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Council's consultant engineers carried out a survey of the main sewers and sewage disposal works and submitted a report on their findings which indicated that infiltration of ground water into the sewers is very marked. It has been suggested that the main sewer between Main Street and the disposal works should be completely relaid and that additional settlement tank capacity and pumps should be provided at the works. The matter is now being considered by the Ministry.

Dried sludge from the outfall works was taken by market gardeners in much reduced quantity; the remainder was taken to the Council's refuse tip.

### SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly; collection is bi-weekly.

The collection and baling of waste paper for salvage was recommenced during the year.

Works of improvement to the refuse tip begun during the previous year were completed with creditable results.

The surface of the tip has been levelled by a bulldozer and two-thirds of the former tipping face was covered with earth and seeded.

About 80 young poplar trees were planted to screen the face of

the tip from the road.

The attention of the Rivers Board was drawn to the unauthorised tipping of refuse into the town's rivers.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

I gratefully acknowledge the invaluable assistance given to me by Mr. Maurice Dixon, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, in the making of this report, at the end of which is his summary of work in accordance with Article 19 of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926; his friendly co-operation, too, is appreciated.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

The following table shows the position in Cockermouth Urban District at the end of 1950. No serious defects were noted by the Sanitary Inspector who made 56 visits.

| Premises   | Number on<br>Register | Inspec-<br>tions | Defects<br>found | Defects<br>Remedied |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| (i) Factories in which<br>1, 2, 3, 4, and 6<br>be enforced by<br>Authorities.                                | are to                | 12               | 0                | 0                   |
| <ul><li>(ii) Factories not including</li><li>(i) in which Section</li><li>enforced by Local ority.</li></ul> | et. 7 is              | 44               | 1                | 1                   |
| (iii) Other premises in Sect. 7 is enforce Local Authority (ing out-workers' ises).                          | ced by<br>exclud-     | _                | _                | _                   |
|  | 61                    | 56               | 1                | 1                   |

\*11 of these relate to bakehouses.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.—The firm of Blood Driers whose licence expired on 1st. May, 1950, again applied to the Council for a renewal and this was granted for another twelve months.

There was still the Knacker and Fellmonger establishment in Waste Lane whose licence was also renewed. Visits of inspection continue to be made to both concerns.

### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

There is no special action to report under the provisions of the above Act.

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The above Act came into force during the year, placing upon. District Councils the responsibility for taking all necessary steps to secure that the district is kept free from rats and mice, to carry out inspections, to destroy rats and mice on local authority premises and to enforce the act provisions upon other owners and occupiers.

The work of destruction on the Council's tip and sewage disposal works, formerly carried out by the County Agricultural Executive Committee under contract, is now done by direct labour. The town's sewers were dealt with twice during the year.

# Housing.

Acute housing shortage continues.

Forty houses, the building of which was commended in 1949, were completed on the Slatefell estate during 1950, and a further forty commenced. Four houses were built by private enterprise.

At the present time there are approximately 270 applicants on the Council's housing list, representing seven years' construction on the present annual allocation.

Tenants were re-housed from several of the clearance areas and steps were taken to ensure that the premises were not reoccupied. A report was presented to the Council suggesting demolition of the areas so cleared.

In other cases, tenants of clearance areas declined to consider alternative accommodation on the Council's new estates, on the ground that present-day rents were beyond their means.

The Council now control the letting of some 400 houses, excluding requisitioned properties.

# Housing Appendix.

### STATISTICS.

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:-

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (uider Public Health or Housing Acts ... 190
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 213
  No action under Statutory Powers (including Overcrowding) was
  taken during the year.

Owing to shortage of labour and materials, high costs, and various restrictions, the position regarding house repair work remains difficult, as before.

### FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY.

As a result of the implementation of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, the supervision of milk production has passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. As a matter of convenience samples are taken by the Sanitary Inspector as requested, the tests being confined to tubercle only. Six samples were taken during the year, all of which were negative (bacteriological examination is undertaken by the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle).

Milk is distributed in this district as follows:-

8 Producer-retailers licensed by the Ministry of Food to retail, including 2 Tuberculin Tested and 6 Ungraded.

6 firms retailing milk purchased in bulk.

Of the producers referred to above only two have their premises in the Urban District.

One dealer was licensed to retail pasteurised milk in the area. Two dealers who applied for a licence to retail accredited milk withdrew their applications on being told the requirements under the Regulations.

Ice Cream.—there were three producer-retailers and 10 retailers only.

On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to whose Divisional Inspector, Mr John Reid, I am indebted for his yearly return (a 'nil' one this time) giving particulars of animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, from premises in the Cockermouth Urban District, 1950.

| Total number of Animals Slaughtered           |       | G |
|---|-------|---|
| Cows in Milk                                  |       | 0 |
| Other Cows or Heifers                         |       | 0 |
| Other Bovine                                  |       | 0 |
| · Types of Disease found at Post-mortem—      |       |   |
| Tuberculosis of Udder                         |       | 0 |
| Tuberculosis with Emaciation                  |       | 0 |
| Tuberculosis with chronic cough and showing   |       |   |
| definite clinical signs                       | * * * | 0 |
| Discharging or excreting tuberculous material |       | 0 |

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter-Houses.—The two Private Slaughter-Houses (both registered), and the Council's Public Abattoir have not been used as such since the Ministry of Food on January 14th, 1940, suspended all slaughtering other than in regional abattoirs—the Maryport abattoir still serves this district under the scheme.

The following foodstuffs were condemned during 1950:—2 tins pork, 67lbs. bacon, 20 lbs. luncheon meat, 2 tins fish, 3 tins soup, 8 tins vegetables, 38 tins milk, 13 tins fruit. All items were surrendered voluntarily.

Bakehouses: No serious defects were found in the 12 bakehouses in the town, which are periodically inspected. (3 of the bakehouses were of the type considered as domestic).

# Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified among civilians during 1950 in the Cockermouth Urban District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis was 9.

Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (vide post) the number was 8. (the same as in 1949).

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. 1950

| Disease             |           | Cases notified<br>1950 admitted<br>to hospital | Deaths<br>of notified<br>cases |
|---------------------|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| Smallpox            | 0         | 0  | 0                              |
| Scarlet Fever       | 2         | 2  | 0                              |
| (Ages:—3            | yrs.—1.   | 5 to 10 yrs.—1.)                               |                                |
| Diphtheria          | 0         | 0  | 0                              |
| Erysipelas          | 0         | , 0  | 0                              |
| Whooping Cough      |           | 0  | 0                              |
| (Age:               | —4 yrs.)  |  |                                |
| Measles             | 0         | 0  | 0                              |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 1         | 1  | 0                              |
|                     | -10 yrs.) |  |                                |
| Cerebro and Spinal  |           |  | 0                              |
| Meningitis          | 0         | 0  | 0                              |
| Typhoid Group, etc. | 0         | 0  | 0                              |
| 77: 1 - 1 * ·       |           |  |                                |
| Tuberculosis:—      |           | 0 (6)  | 0                              |
| Pulmonary Males     |           | 0 (San.)                                       | 0                              |
| Fema                | les 2     | 0  | 0                              |
| Non-Pulmonary Male  | s 0       | 0 (Hosp.)                                      | 0                              |
| Fema                |           | 0 ,,   | 0                              |
|                     |           |  |                                |

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable diseases, 1950:--

| Disease           | Jan | Feb. | Mar | Apr. | May. | J'ne | July | Aug | Sept | Oct. Nov. Dec. Total |
|-------------------|-----|------|-----|------|------|------|------|-----|------|----------------------|
| Scarlet Fever     | 2   |      |     |      |      |      |      |     |      | <b>— 2</b>           |
| Whooping Cough    |     |      |     |      |      |      |      |     |      | i — i                |
| Ac. Poliomyelitis |     |      |     |      |      |      |      | 1   |      | — i                  |
| Tuberculosis—     |     |      |     |      |      |      |      |     |      |                      |
| Pulmonary         | 1   |      |     |      |      |      | I    |     | 2    | 1 — 5                |
| Other Forms       |     |      |     |      |      |      |      |     |      | — o                  |

From notifications received it is deduced that one in every 645 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act and the Tuberculosis Regulations (Measles, Whooping Cough, and Chickenpox excluded). Last year's figures: 1 in 581.

Only two mild cases of Scarlet Fever (1949—6 cases) were notified—see foregoing tables. Both were removed to hospital.

The case rate per 1,000 of the population was, therefore, 0.38 and the death rate nil as compared with 1.1 and nil in 1949 respectively. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1950) were 1.5 and 0.00.

There was, again, no Diphtheria notification, so that the case and death rate per 1,000 of the population were both nil the same as in 1949. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1950) were 0.02 and 0.00.

The immunisation campaign against Diphtheria was continued as before, entailing a lot of unseen varied work. Most of the actual inoculations were given by me at the School Clinic (Harford House, Main Street) as in previous years. The co-operation of local Medical Practitioners and Head Teachers, and particularly that of the County Health Visitor, Miss Horn, is hereby gratefully acknowledged.

According to figures kindly supplied by the Divisional Medical Officer during the year under review 17 elementary school children 5 to 14 years and 59 infants under 5 years were given primary injections (two at intervals of a few weeks) whilst 41 children received a single reinforcing dose (these are children who received two primary doses 4 to 5 years previously.)

One case of Acute Poliomyelitis was notified in the middle of August, that of a boy of 10 years, who was removed to Crozier Lodge. Carlisle, and afterwards went to Hedley Orthopaedic Hospital, Windermere, on account of paresis of one leg; some paresis still persists.

There were no notifications of Typhoid (including Paratyphoid) Fever, Encephalitis Lethargica, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, Erysipelas or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No notification received again. The case rate for Puerperal Pyrexia (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate was:—Puerperal Pyrexia nil per 1,000 total births (i.e. live and still births), the same as in 1949. The corresponding rate (1950) for England and Wales was 5.81.

There was no Maternal death; the Maternal Mortality Rate therefore was again nil per 1,000 total (live and still) births, the same as in 1949.

Pneumonia.—Although no notifications were received (as in the previous year), one death from Pneumonia (all forms) was registered in 1950.

Tuberculosis.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 5 cases of Pulmonary (3 males and 2 females) but none of Other Forms of Tuberculosis were notified. There were also three inward transfers (2 males and 1 female). One case (female pulmonary) left the district; one case (female) was admitted to a Sanatorium.

The following table shows the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1950:—

| 1950.        |         | Non-<br>Respiratory Respiratory R |   |                    | Respir | Non-<br>espiratory Respirato |     |   |   |
|--------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------|------------------------------|-----|---|---|
| Age          |         | M                                 | F | $\bar{\mathbf{M}}$ | F      | M                            | F   | M | F |
| Under 1 year | ar      | · —                               | _ | —                  | _      | _                            |     |   |   |
| 1-5          |         |                                   | — | _                  |        |                              | _   |   |   |
| 5—10         |         | _                                 | — | _                  | —      |                              | -   | _ |   |
| 10—15        |         |                                   | _ | _                  | _      | _                            | _   | _ | _ |
| 15—20        |         | _                                 | _ | _                  | _      |                              |     | _ | _ |
| 20-25        | 1.1     | _                                 | 1 | _                  | _      |                              | _   | _ | _ |
| 25-35        |         | _                                 | · | -                  | _      | _                            | -   | _ |   |
| 3545         |         |                                   | — | -                  | _      | _                            | •—— |   | _ |
| 4555         |         | 2                                 | _ | _                  |        |                              | _   | _ |   |
| 55—65        |         | _                                 | 1 | -                  | _      | _                            | _   |   | _ |
| 65—and 1     | upwards | 1                                 | _ | _                  | _      | _                            | 1   | _ |   |
|              |         | _                                 | - |                    | —      |                              |     |   | _ |
| Totals       |         | 3                                 | 2 | 0                  | 0      | 0                            | 1   | 0 | 0 |

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 10.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1950 was as follows:-

|               |           | Males | Females  | Total |
|---------------|-----------|-------|----------|-------|
| Pulmonary     |           | 12    | 8        | 20    |
| Non-pulmonary | • •       | 1     | 1        | 2     |
|               |           | _     | <b>—</b> |       |
|               | All cases | 13    | 9        | 22    |

Non-Notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza was prevalent. Two deaths (1 March, 1 April) were recorded from this disease (with complications), so that the Influenza death rate was 0.38 per 1,000 of the population, the same as the previous year. The rate (1950) for all England and Wales was 0.10.

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—There was one case of Whooping Cough but none of Measles notified, and no death was recorded in connection with either disease. The case rates and death rates in 1950 were therefore, respectively, per 1,000 of the population as follows:—Measles, both rates, nil; Whooping Cough .19, and nil,

(England and Wales in 1950:—Measles 8.39 and 0.01; and Whooping Cough, 3.60 and 0.01).

Hospital accommodation as provided by the West Cumberland loint Hospital Board for infectious diseases remains unaltered.

SCHOOL CLOSURES.—During 1950 no elementary school in Cockermouth was closed on account of infectious disease,

Sanitary Inspector's Summary to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article XIX of the Sanitary Officers Order. 1926.

### NUISANCES:-

| Nuisances reported to Council<br>Written Intimatory Notices served after inspection<br>Written Intimatory Notices complied with  | • • • | 2<br>3<br>3               |
|--|-------|---------------------------|
| DETAILED SANITARY WORK:— Choked Drains, defective I.C.'s and gullies Housing Inspections Factories Inspections Visits to Knackery and Blood Drying Factory Visits re Infectious Diseases (incl. Disinfections) |       | 18<br>213<br>56<br>4<br>6 |

# PLANS APPROVED DURING 1950 .-

Dwellinghouse ond garage at Parkside Avenue for Mr L. L. Williamson.

Dining recess at "Greengates" Sunscales Ave. for Mr R. P. Marra. Fish and Chip Shop at Windmil! Lane for Mr H. Banks.

Store for cattle food at Goods Station for Messrs J. Bibby and Sons Extension to Kitchen at Sunscales Avenue for Mr H. B. Lloyd. Bedroom and Bathroom to cottage at Park Lane for Leconfield Estate.

40 Houses at Slatefell Estate for N.E.H.A. Ltd.

Alteration and additional storage for Messrs Shell-Mex and B.P., Cockermouth.

Byre and Dairy at Grassmoor House for Mr S. Nicholson and Sons Private Garage at Fitz Road for Mr G. Firn.

Bungalow at Parkside Avenue for Mr G. Todhunter.

External W.C. at High Sand Lane for Mr Bennett.

Private Garage at Parkside Avenue for Mr G. Todhunter.

Block of Garages at Henry Street for Cockermouth U.D.C.

Cycle store at Grammar School for Cumberland County Council.

Extension dining room at Cocker Brows for Dr. Mason.

Extension to Highway Depot at Low Road for Cumberland C.C.

Shed at South Street for Messrs Thomas Armstrong.

Garage at Huntsman Yard for Mr T. Pearson.

Extension of Boy's Club at St. Helens Street per Mr Hinchcliffe Parking ground Lorton Road for County Garage Co., Ltd.

Detached House at Parkside Avenue for Mr W. P. Deacon. Development of Field No. 288 for C. and W. T. W. Association.

M. M. DIXON, M.Inst. Mun.E. C.R. San.I. Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector,







